

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1.       A method for keeping a copy of data, wherein a primary database  
2 server is coupled to a primary data store, wherein the primary database server receives  
3 database events from an external source and generates signals for accessing the primary data  
4 store, the method comprising

5                using the tracking process to store at least a portion of the received database  
6 events in an event log; and

7                using the event log to update a secondary data store.

1           2.       The method of claim 1, further comprising

2                excluding some of the events from being stored in the event log.

3           3.       The method of claim 2, further comprising

4                wherein the step of excluding some of the events in the event log includes the  
5 substep of allowing a user to define which events are excluded.

6           4.       The method of claim 1, wherein the external source includes an  
7 application program.

8           5.       The method of claim 4, wherein the application program is part of a  
9 messaging network.

1           6.       The method of claim 1, further comprising

2                updating multiple secondary data stores.

3           7.       In a distributed networked computer system, a method for exchanging  
4 messages in said networked computer system, said process comprising the steps of:

5                providing information to be sent from a source to a destination, said source  
6 and said destination coupled to said distributed networked computer system;

7                generating a message at said source, said message comprising the information  
8 and routing information;

9                transmitting said message to a selected route point in said distributed computer  
10 network using a first communication backbone;

              transmitting said message to at least one additional selected route point in said  
distributed computer network using a second communication backbone;

11 archiving said message at each route point;  
12 transmitting said message from route point to said destination;  
13 eliminating duplicate copies of said message at said destination;  
14 generating an event log including information about said archiving; and  
15 using the event log to update a secondary data store.

1 8. A method for maintaining copies of data, wherein an application  
2 program sends events to a database server, wherein the database server generates database  
3 transactions to modify a primary copy of data, the method comprising

4 storing a record of the events as an original event log; and  
using the original event log to maintain multiple copies of the data.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising

transferring at least a portion of the record of events to multiple data sites,  
3 wherein each data site includes a data store, wherein each data store includes at least a  
4 portion of the data; and

5 using the transferred at least a portion of the record of events to update the  
6 data at the data stores.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein at least one data site receives events  
2 from two or more data sites.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein a secondary data site receives a  
2 series of events in an order different from the order of events in the original event log, the  
3 method comprising

4 using the received different-order events to update data at the secondary data  
5 site.